



**News Release  
For Immediate Release**

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**City of Lemon Grove Releases 2021 State of the City Address**

**Lemon Grove, CA** - The City of Lemon Grove 2021 State of the City Address has now been released on several public [digital platforms](#). The address, delivered virtually by Mayor Racquel Vasquez summarized the City of Lemon Grove's successes in 2020 including compassionate and responsive approaches to the pandemic, consistent and thorough services from essential departments throughout the pandemic and beyond, goals for the future and ending on a positive budget.

"Essential workers remained steadfast in their commitment to provide services to residents throughout the pandemic," said Mayor Vasquez, "Lemon Grove still delivers services at the lowest per capita cost than any other city in the County of San Diego."

Public works, fire and sheriff departments were highlighted for a number of successful metrics. A large number of potholes were filled and numerous graffiti tags, illegal dumps and trash were all removed in addition to 183 linear feet of sewer lines cleaned by the public works division team. In sight for 2021, the City will rehabilitate 12.4 lane miles of City streets, included in the comprehensive work plan. Programs that were designed in 2020 to help homelessness and hunger were praised during the address. In 2020, City Councilmember Jennifer Mendoza spearheaded a food distribution program, "feeding Lemon Grove," maximizing state and local grants, which fed 5,400 families.

Many Lemon Grove local small businesses received a combined \$650k in Small Business grants, some made up of businesses owned by women, Latino and black owners. The City partnered with Lemon Grove school district to create a free educational day camp to host online school students, providing lunch and after-school activities. Making large budget cuts, monitoring spending and experiencing a growth in the City's sales tax revenue, the City budget ended in the positive for 2020.

The City's goals from the 2021 comprehensive work plan include, but are not limited to:

- Increasing street repair
- Expanding homelessness solutions
- Funding a part-time communications position
- Funding a part-time motorcycle deputy
- Commission an economic development strategy

“When we forget regret and look forward to what is ahead, our future is bright,” said Vasquez, “Let’s look forward together to see our global city thrive.”

### **About the City of Lemon Grove**

Incorporated in 1977, the City of Lemon Grove, CA is just a few miles east of downtown San Diego, boasting a diverse mix of more than 26,000 residents who enjoy all the charm of small-town living with the conveniences of big city proximity. Lemon Grove has an array of community benefits including competitive housing prices, strong schools, local parks, an eclectic blend of shopping and dining options, and a near-perfect climate. The City is dedicated to engaging the community through special events and outreach opportunities, keeping open lines of communication between the City and its residents, focusing on investments in infrastructure improvements and providing quality of life enhancements.

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